



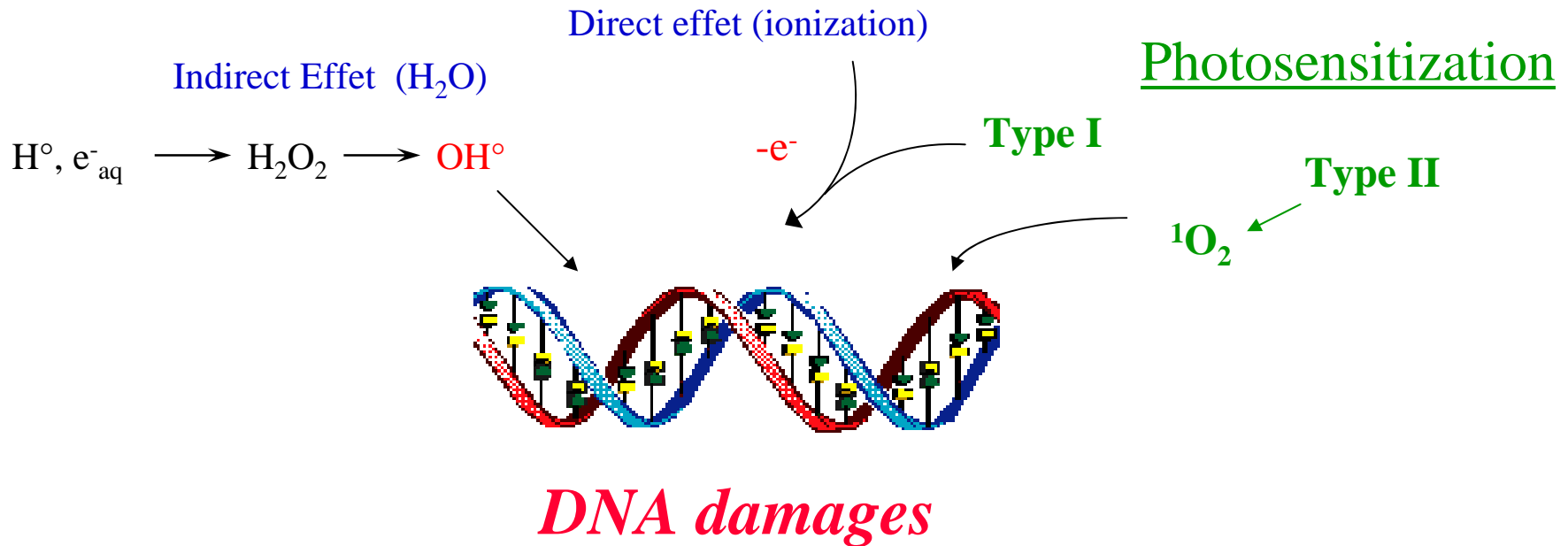
# Three decades of research on radiation-induced DNA lesions

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CEA Grenoble, France*

# Effects of radiations on DNA



Identification of DNA lesions

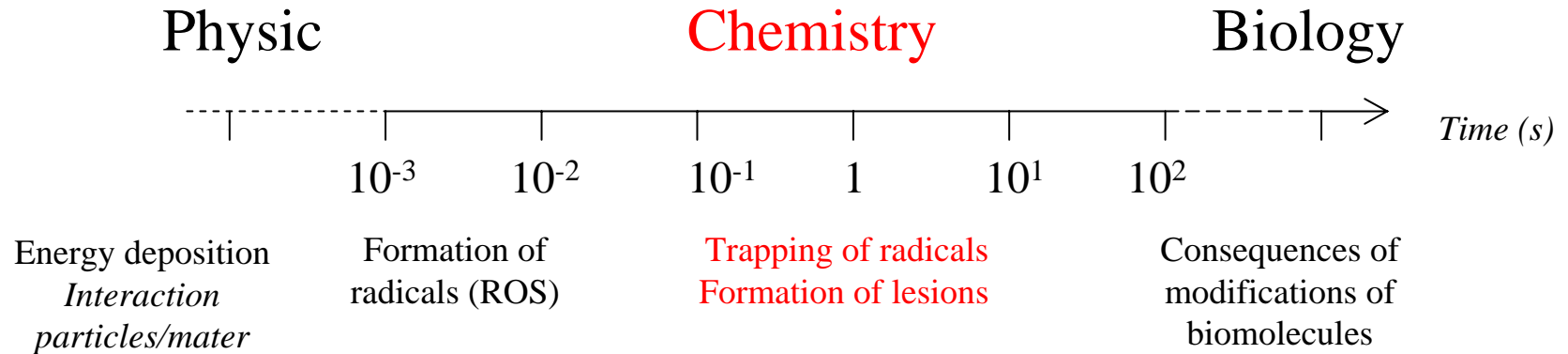
Quantification in cellular DNA

Biological consequences of these lesions

# Radiobiology



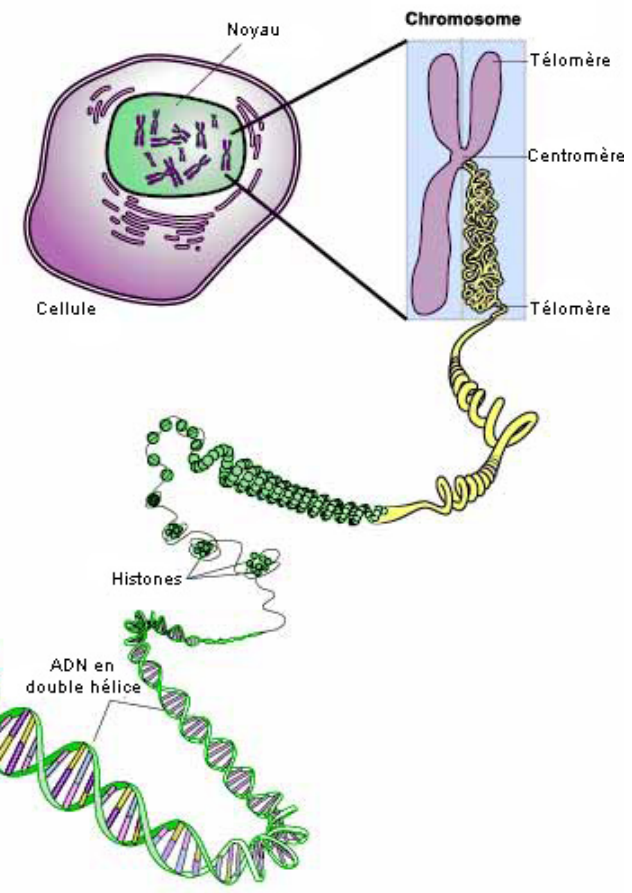
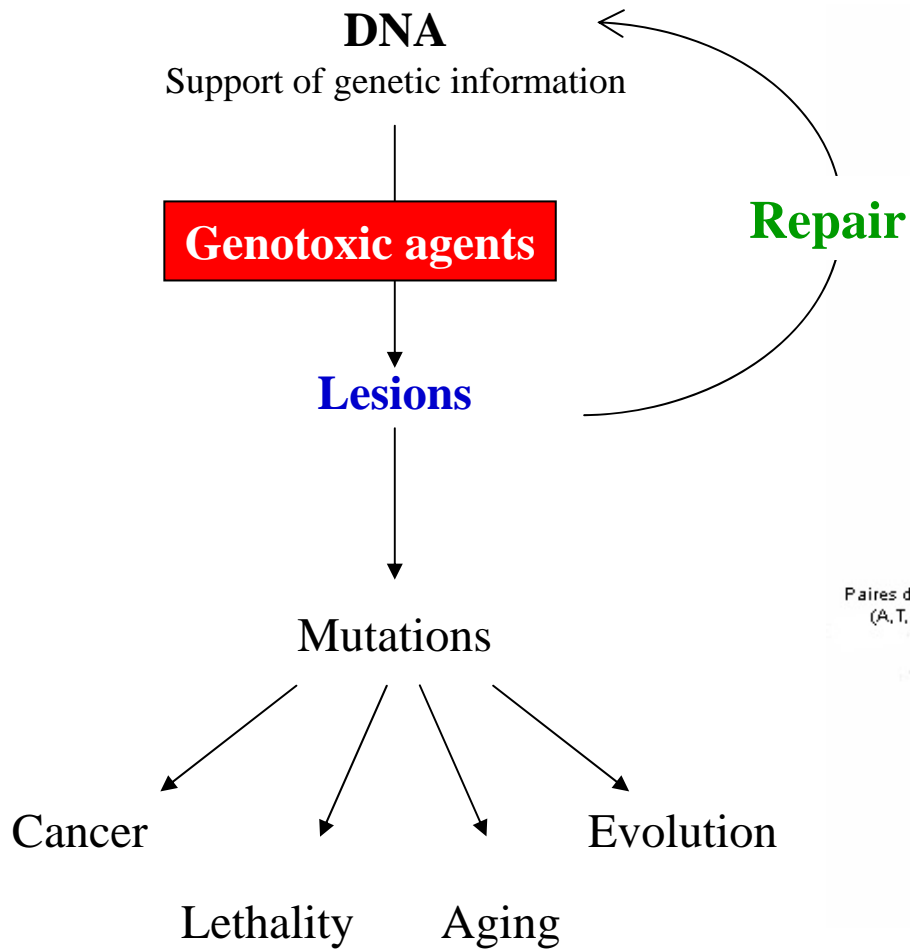
From physic to biology, through chemistry...



**Biological consequences are directly related to chemical events...**

Lesions generated in cellular DNA ?  
What are their yields of formation ?  
Kinetic & fidelity of repair, mutagenicity...

# DNA damage



*What are the chemical modification induced by radiation?*

# Main approaches used to identify DNA lesions



## Studies using model systems exposed to radiation

Nucleosides (protected or not)  
Nucleotides, short oligonucleotides

## Isolation and Identification of the decomposition products

HPLC  
NMR ( $^1\text{H}$ ,  $^{13}\text{C}$ ,  $^{15}\text{N}$ , 1D et 2D)  
Mass spectrometry ...

## Mechanism of formation

Different experimental conditions  
Times resolved spectroscopies  
Labeling experiments ( $\text{H}_2^{18}\text{O}$ ,  $^{18}\text{O}_2$ )

## Detection of the lesions in isolated DNA, in cells

HPLC-Fluorescence, Amperometry  
HPLC-MS/MS

***Today about 70 different radiation-induced DNA lesions have been identified  
About 15 are detected in cellular DNA***

# Importance of chemistry...



In the chemistry laboratory (Warsaw Museum of Industry and Agriculture) **Maria completed a systematic course of chemical, qualitative and quantitative analysis...** Maria Skłodowska left the laboratory **with enormous chemical knowledge and analytical skills**, which were to help her in her later research work in Paris.

*Beginning of twentieth century Maria said after a lecture in Warsaw:*

"If Professor Napoleon Milicer and his assistant Kossakowski had not taught me analysis so well in Warsaw, I would never have been able to isolate radium"

*From "Maria Skłodowska-Curie and Radioactivity"  
By Josef Hurwic, Galan Edition, Warsaw, 2011*

Among other things, the Curies found that rays emitted by radium can transform oxygen into ozone, thus they gave **radiation chemistry** its beginning

*P. Curie, M. Curie, "Effets chimiques produits par les rayons de Becquerels" ibid. (1902) 129, 823-825*

# Importance and role of **Chemistry** in Radiation-biology



If the harmful effect of radiations are known from a long time, identification of the produced DNA lesions is relatively recent

**1902**-First cases of radiation induced skin cancer reported

**1970's 1980's** - Radiation chemistry in the field of DNA damage

Hariharan PV, Cerutti PA (1972) Formation and repair of gamma-ray induced thymine damage in *Micrococcus radiodurans*. *J Mol Biol* 66: 65-81.

Schellenberg KA, Shaeffer J, Nichols RK, Gates D (1981) Characterization of radiation damage to DNA by reaction with borohydride. *Nucleic Acids Res* 9: 3863-3872.

Cerutti PA. (1974) Effects of ionizing radiation on mammalian cells. *Naturwissenschaften* 61: 51-59.

Téoule R, Bonicel A, Bert C, Cadet J, Polverelli M (1974) Identification of radioproducts resulting from the breakage of thymine moiety by gamma irradiation of *E coli* DNA in an aerated aqueous solution. *Radiat Res* 57: 46-58.

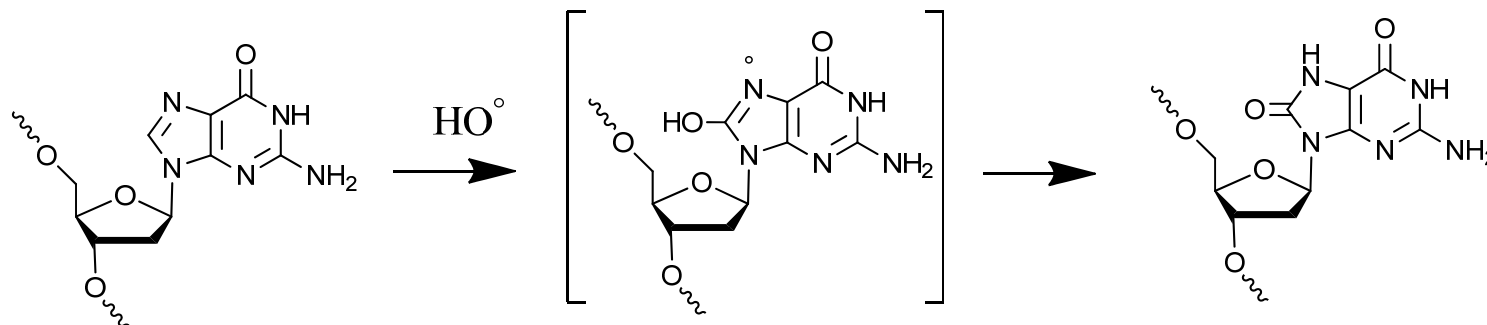
Hariharan PV, Cerutti PA (1977) Formation of products of the 5,6-dihydroxydihydrothymine type by ultraviolet light in HeLa cells. *Biochemistry* 16: 2791-2795.



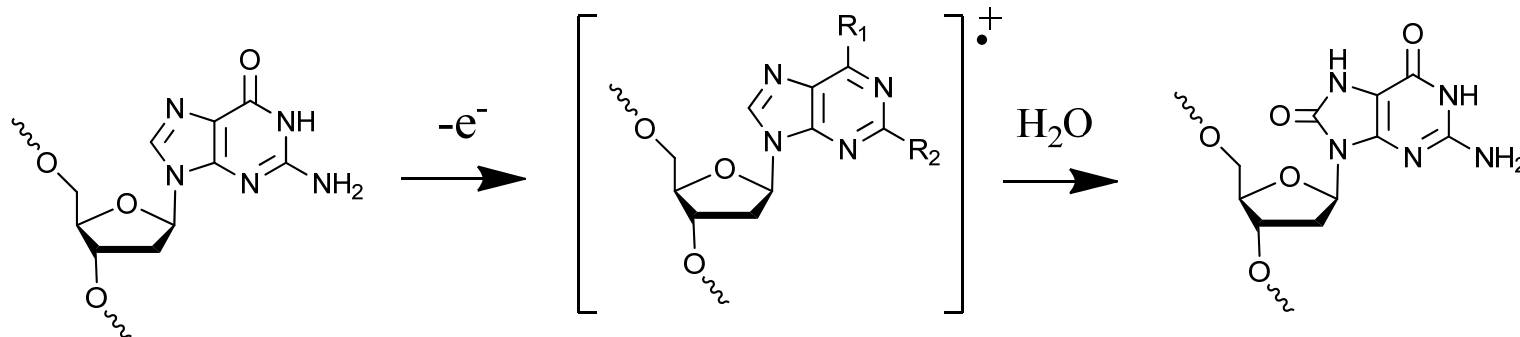
Kasai, H. and Nishimura, S., Hydroxylation of deoxyguanosine at the C-8 position by ascorbic acid and other reducing agent. (1984) *Nucleic Acids Res.*, **12**, 2137-2145.

Kasai, H., Tanooka, H. and Nishimura, S., Formation of 8-hydroxyguanine residues in DNA by X-irradiation. (1984) *Gann.*, **75**, 1037-1039.

## Radiation chemistry: Mechanism of formation of 8-oxodGuo



Kasai, H. *et al.*, *Nucleic Acids Res.* **12**, (1984). 2137-2145  
Addition of  $\text{HO}^\bullet$  at C8 of dGuo (indirect effect)

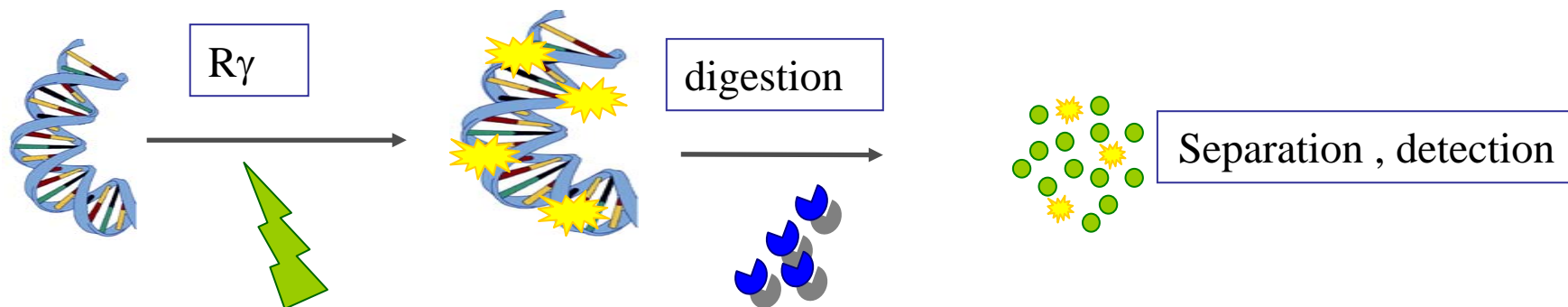


Kasai, H. *et al.*, *J. Am. Chem. Soc.* **114**, (1992). 9692-9694  
Hydration of guanine radical cation (direct effect)



Measuring DNA lesions in cells is a challenging analytical problem.

Experimental approach used:



When cells are irradiated, DNA is first isolated from other cellular constituents

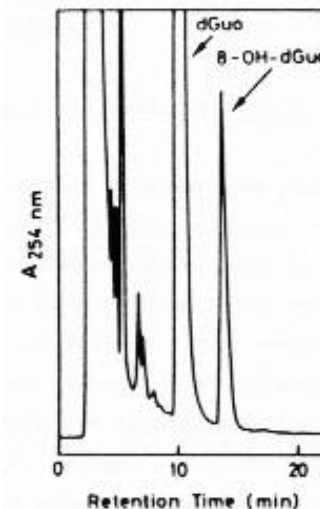
The method used for detection should be highly sensitive to detect **a few modification per million normal nucleosides**.

## Detection of 8-oxodGuo : a long story...



-First reports: HPLC with UV detection

Detection not very sensitive, not specific  
Not sensitive enough for DNA



*Kasai et al. 1984*

-Development of HPLC-EC detection

Floyd, R. A. *et al.*, *Free Radic. Res. Commun.* **1**, (1986). 163-172

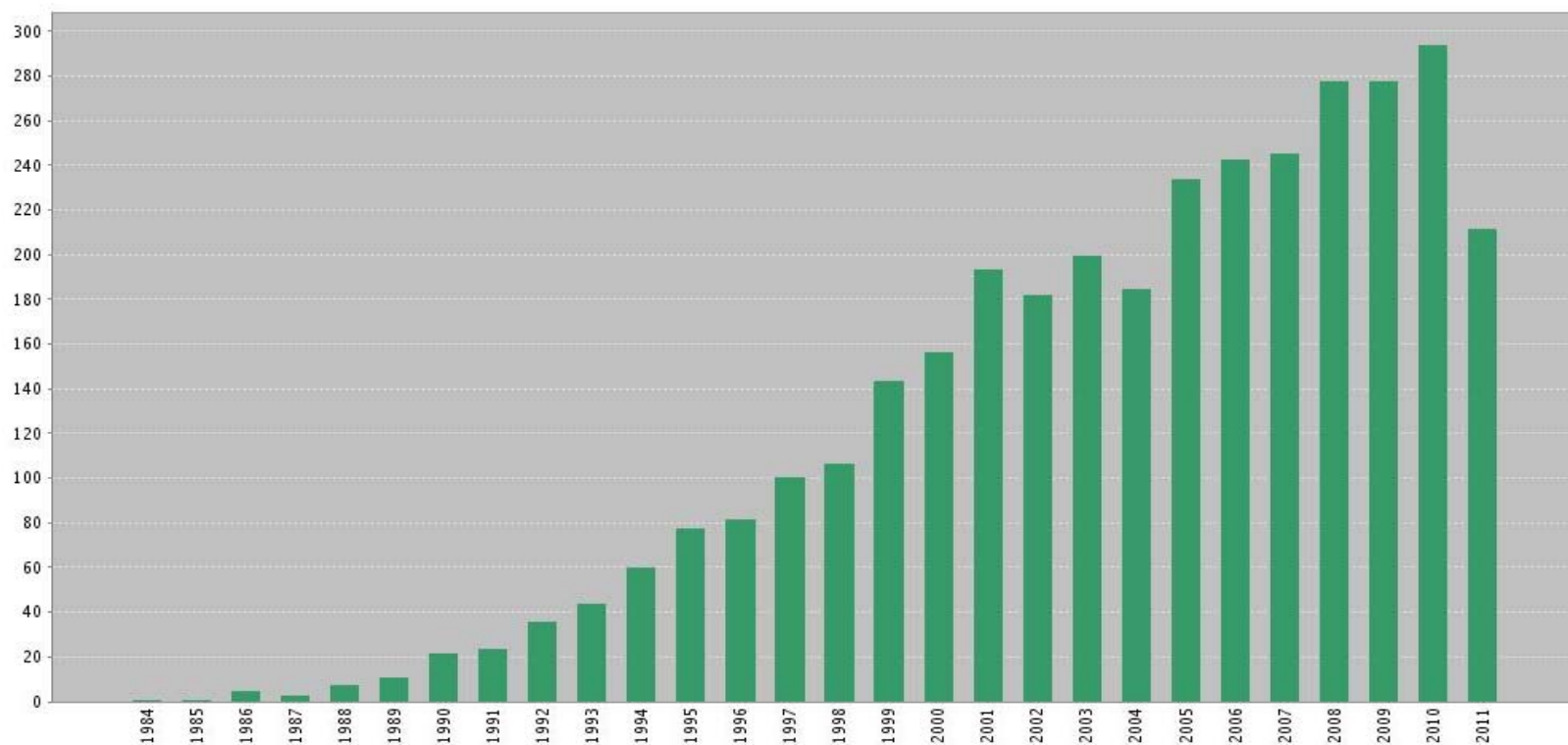
The product is oxidized at a defined potential and produced electrons are detected  
Highly sensitive, and specific (normal nucleosides are not detected)

The sensitive (and facility of use) of that method is probably at the origin of the **popularity of 8-oxodGuo**.

## 8-oxodGuo, a well-studied DNA lesion



### Number of publications per year (*web of knowledge*)



Total 5853 keywords 8-hydroxy-2'-deoxyguanosine or 8-oxo-7,8-dihydro-2'-deoxyguanosine



### Gas-chromatography mass spectrometry (GC-MS)

Dizdaroglu, M. (1984) *J Chromatogr*, **295**, 103-121.

Since DNA bases are not volatile, they have to be derivatized (introduction of TMS groups) prior to the measurement

**But...**

Halliwell, B. and Dizdaroglu, M., Commentary. The measurement of oxidative damage to DNA by HPLC and GC/MS techniques. (1992) *Free Radic. Res. Commun.*, **16**, 75-87.

... To date, fewer studies upon DNA freshly-isolated from cells and tissues have been done with GC/MS-SIM than with HPLC, but the figures available show around 40 8-OHGua per  $10^6$  DNA bases, **about 2- to 11-fold greater** than the figures recorded by HPLC...

**Which method is the correct one ?**

## Determination of the origin of the controversy...



The derivatization reaction induces oxidation of normal bases and thus, GC-MS overestimates the level of 8-oxodGuo in DNA by up to 3 orders of magnitudes !

Reprinted from *Chemical Research in Toxicology*, 1995, 8.

### **Determination of 8-Oxoguanine in DNA by Gas Chromatography–Mass Spectrometry and HPLC–Electrochemical Detection: Overestimation of the Background Level of the Oxidized Base by the Gas Chromatography–Mass Spectrometry Assay**

Jean-Luc Ravanat,<sup>†</sup> Robert J. Turesky,<sup>\*,†</sup> Eric Gremaud,<sup>†</sup> Laura J. Trudel,<sup>‡</sup> and Richard H. Stadler<sup>†</sup>

*Nestec Ltd., Nestlé Research Centre, Vers-Chez-Les-Blanc, 1000 Lausanne 26, Switzerland, and Division of Toxicology, Massachusetts Institute of Technology, Cambridge, Massachusetts 02139*

*Received April 21, 1995<sup>©</sup>*

*This have highlighted another potential problem, DNA oxidation could also occur during extraction and digestion...*

*Ravanat, J.-L. et al., Carcinogenesis 23, (2002). 1911-1918.*

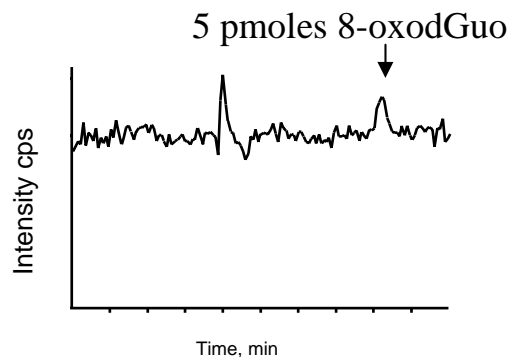
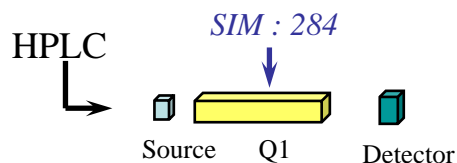
# Development of HPLC coupled to tandem mass spectrometry



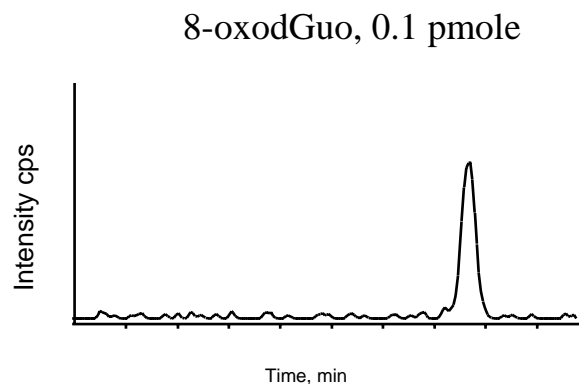
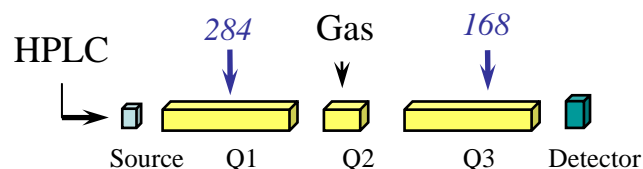
Electrospray ionisation developed in mid-80s by  
Dr John B. Fenn Nobel Laureate in Chemistry in 2002

Ravanat, J.-L., et al. (1998) *J. Chromatogr. B*, **715**, 349-356.

## HPLC-MS (SIM)



## HPLC-MS/MS (MRM)



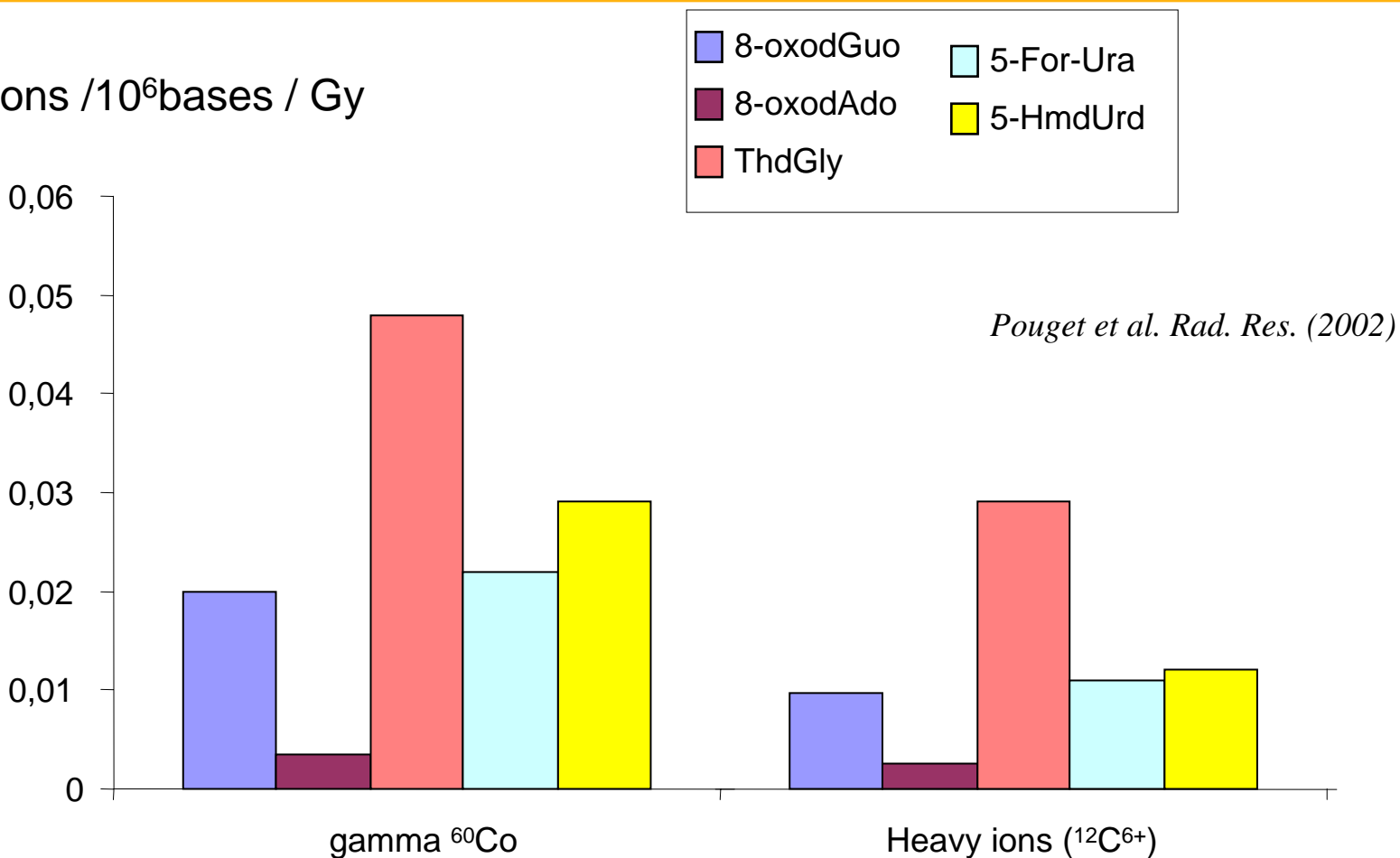
**Tandem mass spectrometry** is required to obtain a sensitivity compatible with the level of lesion measured in cells

Simultaneous determination of several radiation-induced DNA lesions

# Formation of lesions the DNA of irradiated cells



Lesions /10<sup>6</sup>bases / Gy

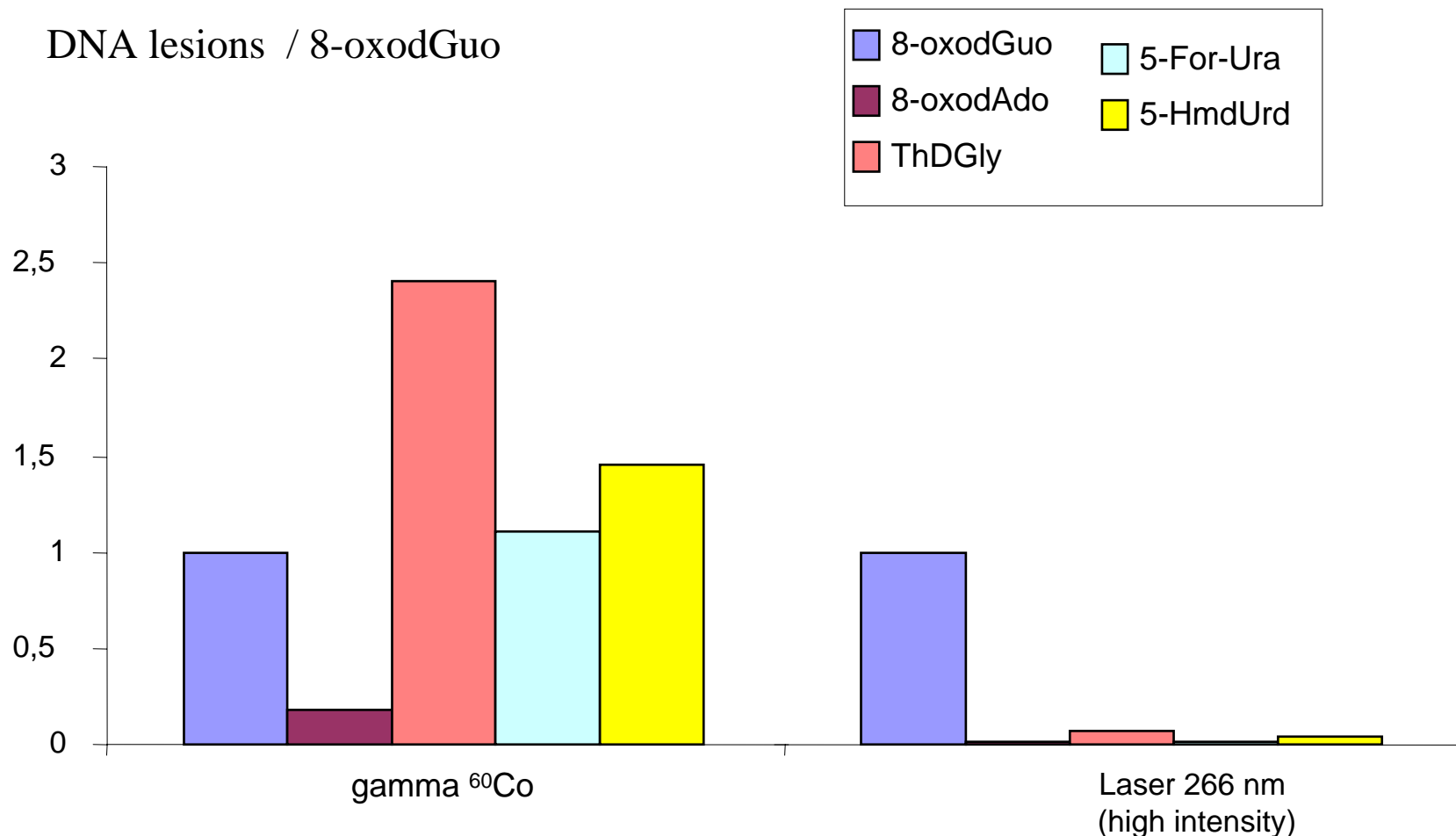


Yield of formation of damage is low!  
8-oxodGuo is not the major lesion produced in cells

# Direct versus indirect effect ?



DNA lesions / 8-oxodGuo



The indirect effect (role of HO°) is the main mechanism.

Douki, T. *et al.*, *Int. J. Radiat. Biol.* **82**, (2006). 119-127



## Observation:

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cea

Reactivity of DNA bases in dsDNA  
is **at least partly different** to that  
determined at the nucleoside level !

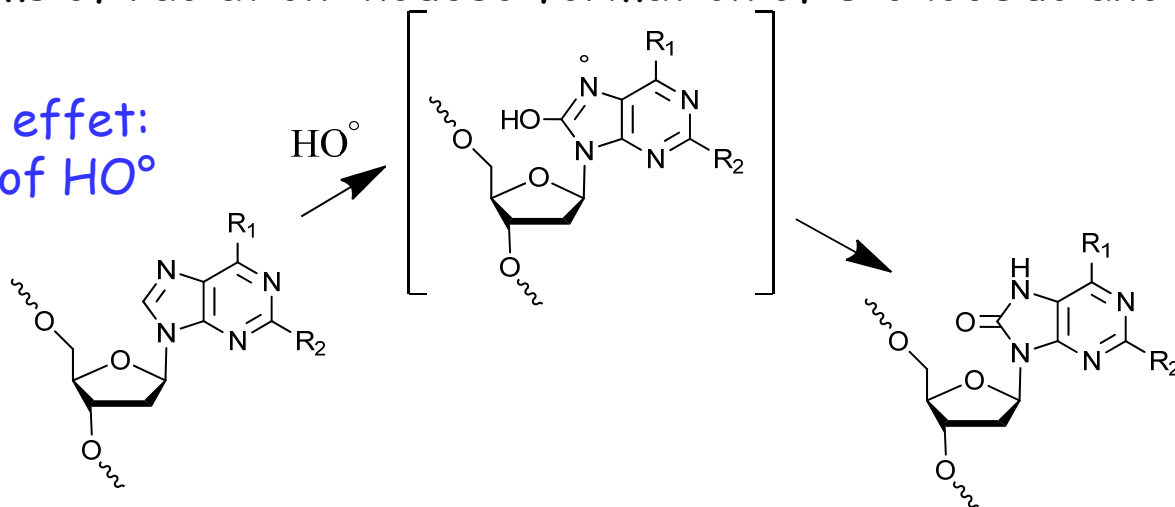
Study of chemical reactions in dsDNA

# Formation of 8-oxopurines in dsDNA



## Mechanisms of radiation-induced formation of 8-oxodGuo and 8-oxodAdo

Indirect effect:  
addition of  $\text{HO}^\circ$



Direct effect:  
Hydration of  
radical cation

The indirect effect is predominant (role of  $\text{HO}^\circ$ )

### Pending questions :

-Different reactivity between free nucleosides and dsDNA !

Ravanat, J.-L. *et al.*, *J. Am. Chem. Soc.* **125**, (2003). 2030-2031

-Why in dsDNA 8-oxodGuo  $\gg$  8-oxodAdo?

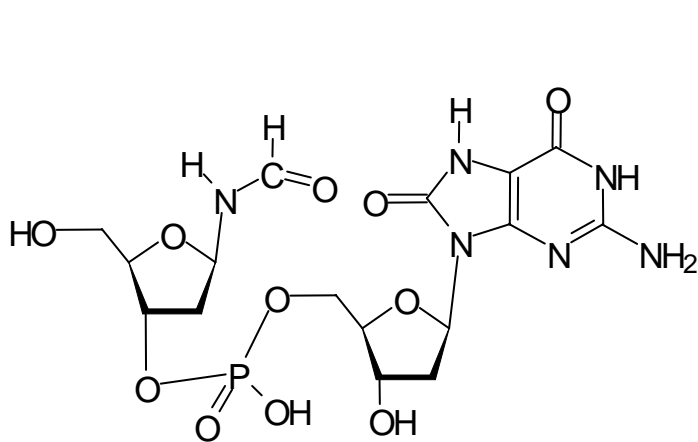
Is there (at least) another mechanism involved ?

# Radiation-induced formation of tandem lesions

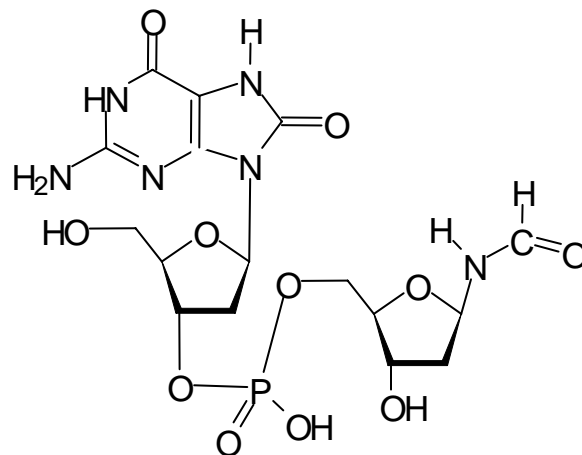


## Tandem lesion Formylamine(dF)/8-oxodGuo

Bourdat, A.-G., *et al.* (2000) *J. Am. Chem. Soc.*, **122**, 4549-4556.



dF/8-oxodGuo



8-oxodGuo/dF

Efficacy of repair of these tandem lesions by BER?

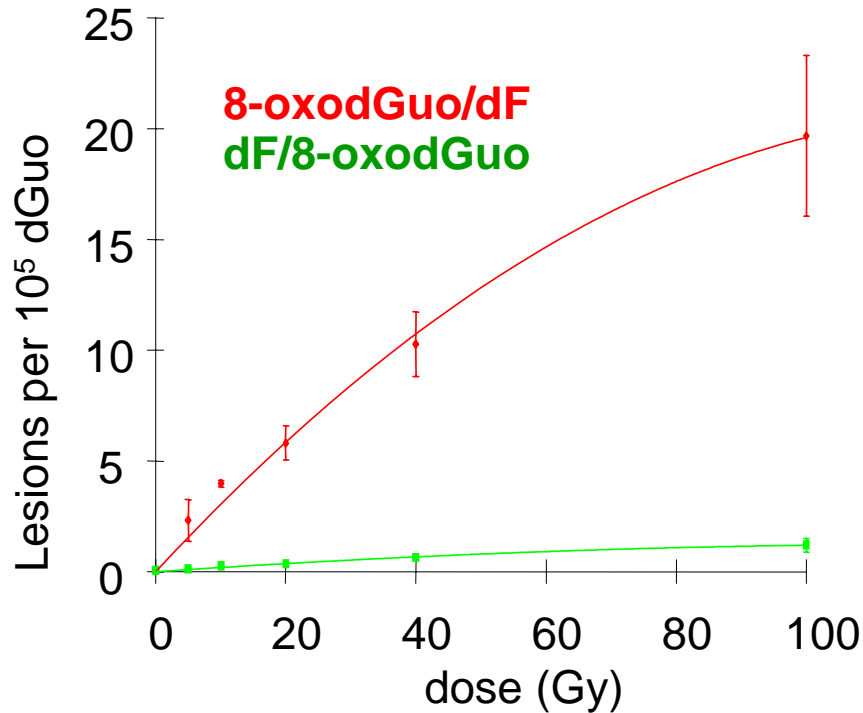
Are these lesions generated in irradiated dsDNA ?

# Radiation-induced formation of tandem lesions

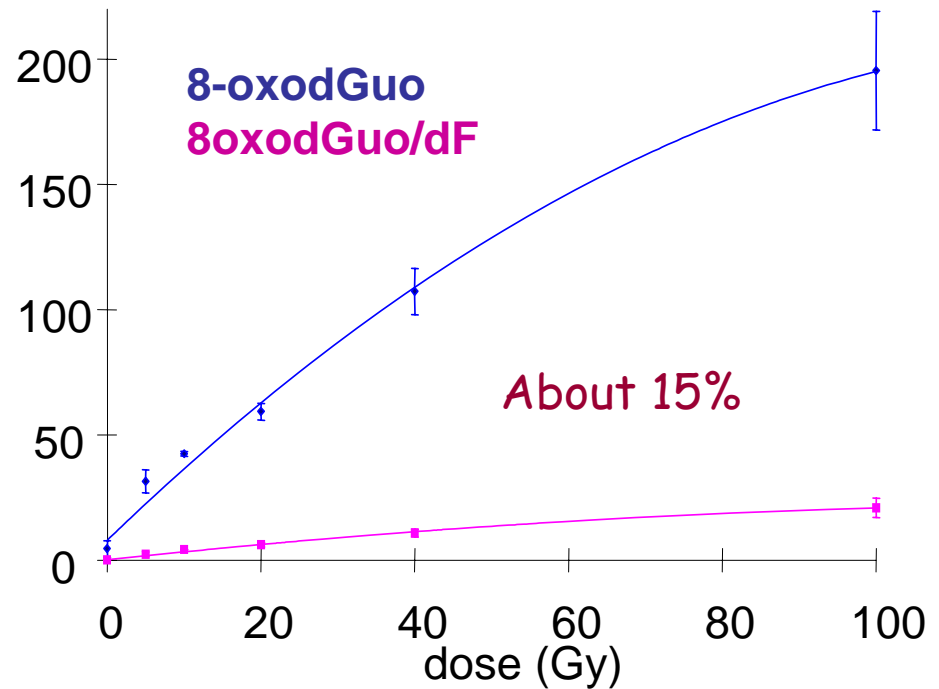


Bourdat, A.-G., *et al.* (2000) *J. Am. Chem. Soc.*, **122**, 4549-4556.

Linearity of formation  
Sequence effect

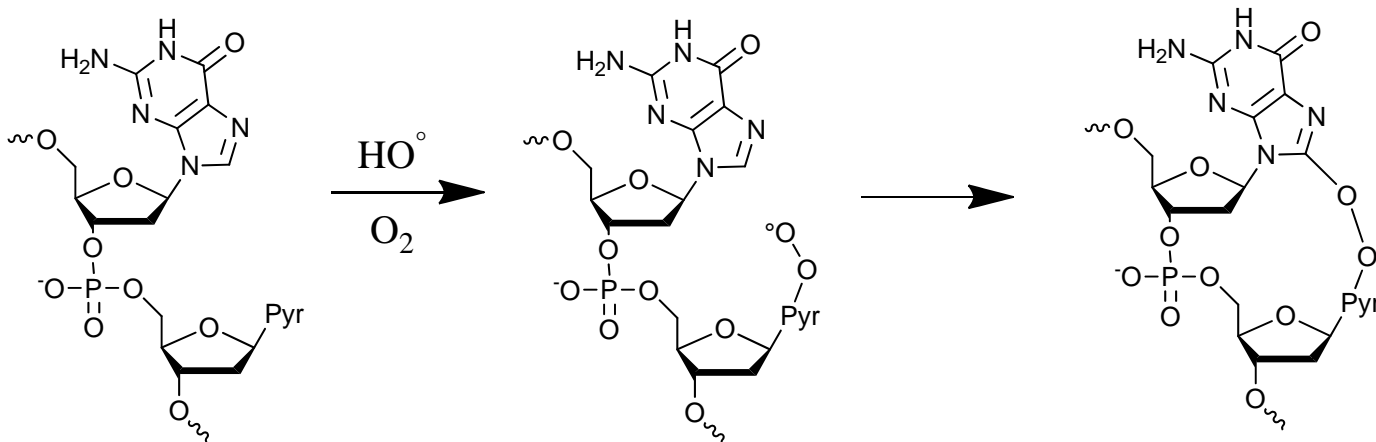


Importance/8-oxodGuo



Mechanism of formation ? Only one radical involved ?

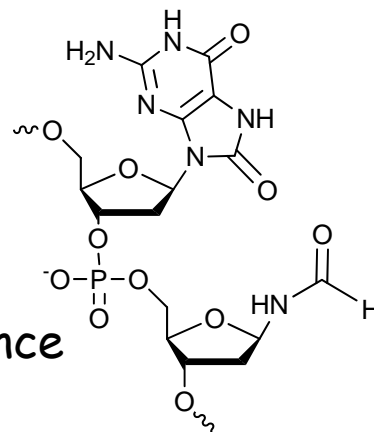
# Mechanism of formation of tandem lesions



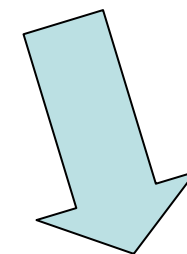
Linearity of formation: only one  $\text{HO}^\circ$  involved

Sequence effect explained by the distance between C8(G) and C4-C5 (T or C)

Douki, T., et al. (2002) *Chem. Res. Toxicol.*, **15**, 445-454.



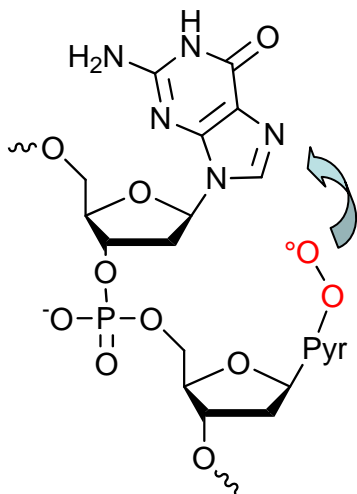
8-oxodGuo/dF



Other tandem lesions ?

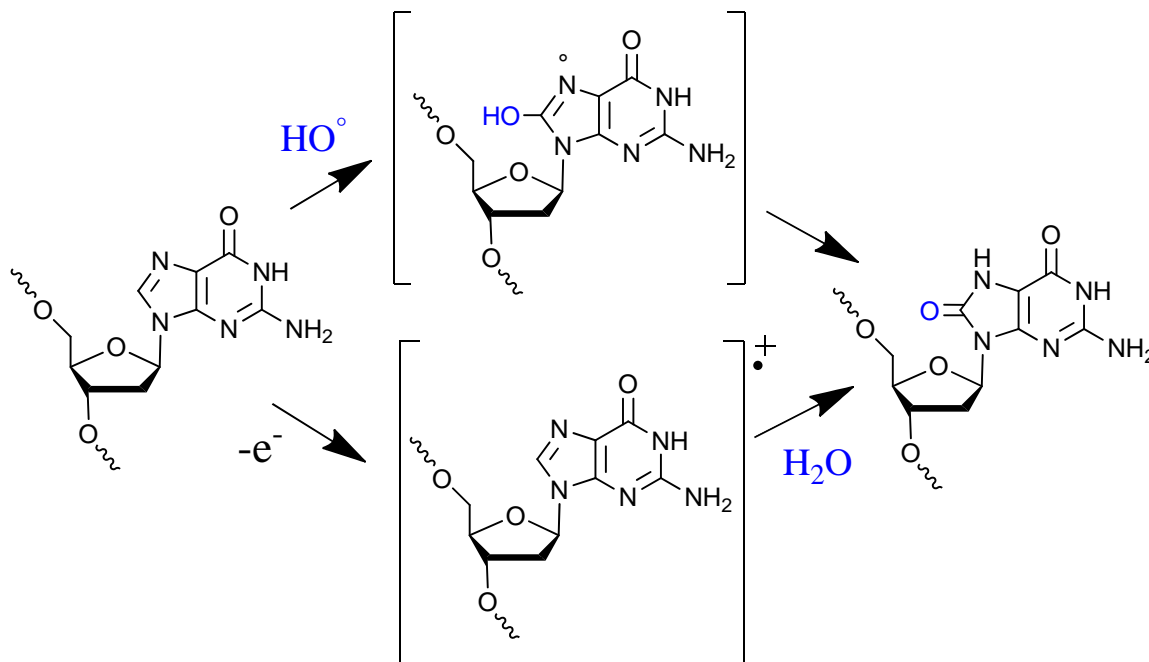
What is the importance of such a reaction ?

# Proportion of 8-oxopurine involved in tandem lesions?



If a peroxy radical is involved (tandem DNA lesions) the oxygen atom incorporated in 8-oxodGuo comes from **molecular oxygen**

If not, for both direct and indirect effects, incorporated oxygen atom comes from **water**



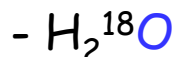
# Proportion of 8-oxopurine involved in tandem lesions?



Determination of the relative importance of tandem lesions

Origin of the oxygen atom?

DNA irradiation performed in the presence of either



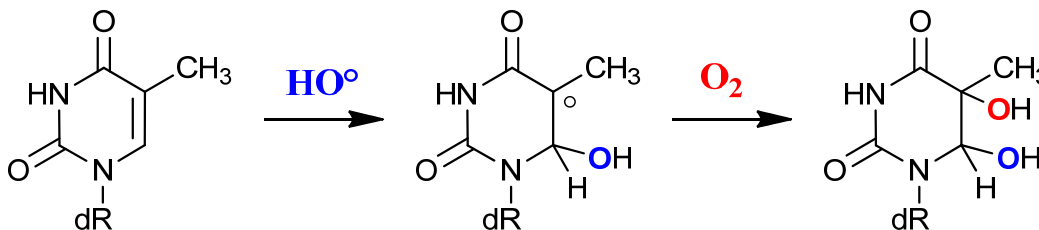
DNA digestion and HPLC-MS/MS determination of both  
8-oxoPur (M) et  $^{18}\text{O}$ -8-oxoPur (M+2)

Ravanat, J.-L. (2000) *J. Biol. Chem.* **275**, 40601-40604



## Origin of the oxygen atom and quantification of oxidized purine bases

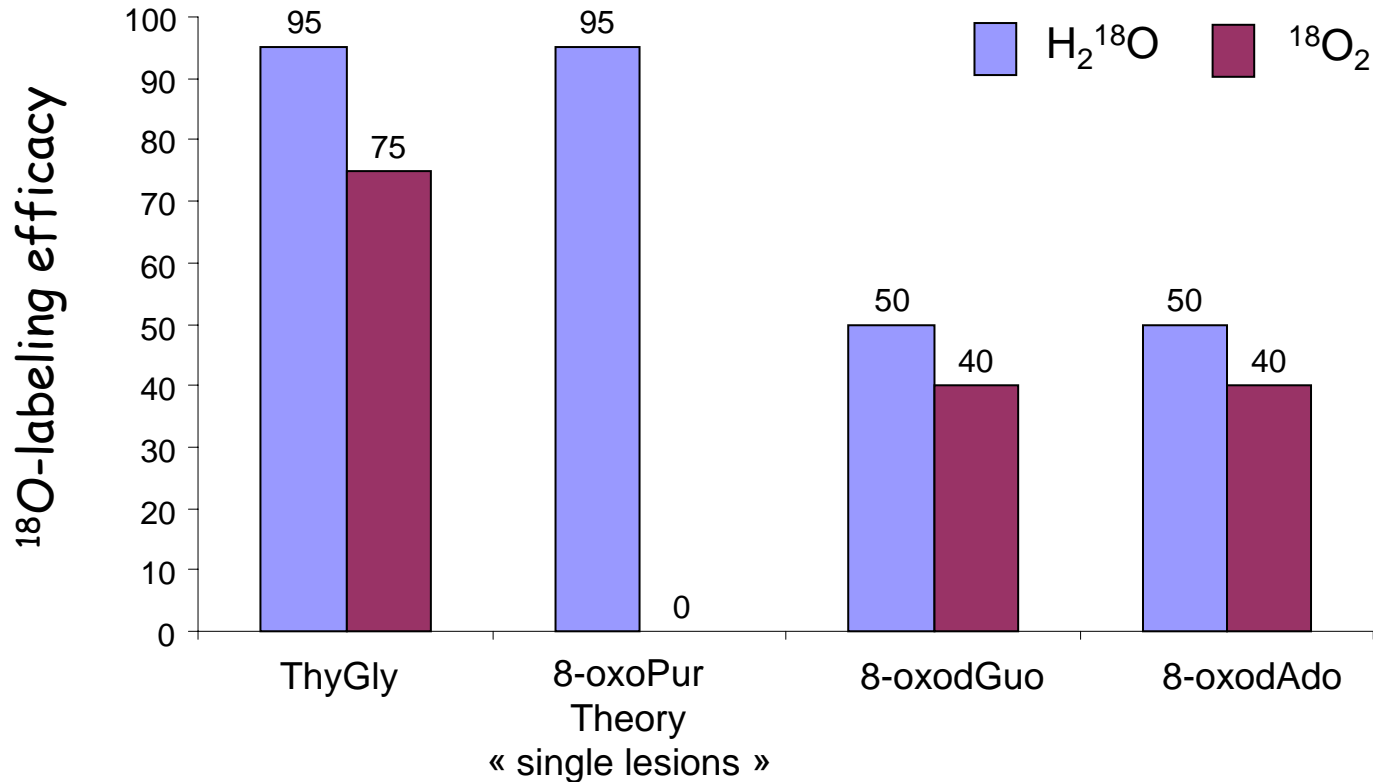
Use of thymidine glycols as an internal standard  
(to evaluate isotopic enrichment of the solution)



# Proportion of 8-oxopurines involved in tandem lesions



Incorporation of  $^{18}\text{O}$  from  $\text{H}_2^{18}\text{O}$  or  $^{18}\text{O}_2$



For **50%** of 8-oxopur (both 8-oxodGuo and 8-oxodAdo)  
the oxygen atom comes from molecular oxygen!

**Formation of tandem lesions induced by peroxy radicals**



# Use of polynucleotides



## Poly(dA)-poly(dT)

...TpTpTpTpTpTpTpT...  
...ApApApApApApApA...

## Poly(dG)-poly(dC)

...CpCpCpCpCpCpCpC...  
...GpGpGpGpGpGpGpG...

## Poly(dA-dT)

...TpApTpApTpApTpApT...  
...ApTpApTpApTpApTpA...

## Poly(dG-dC)

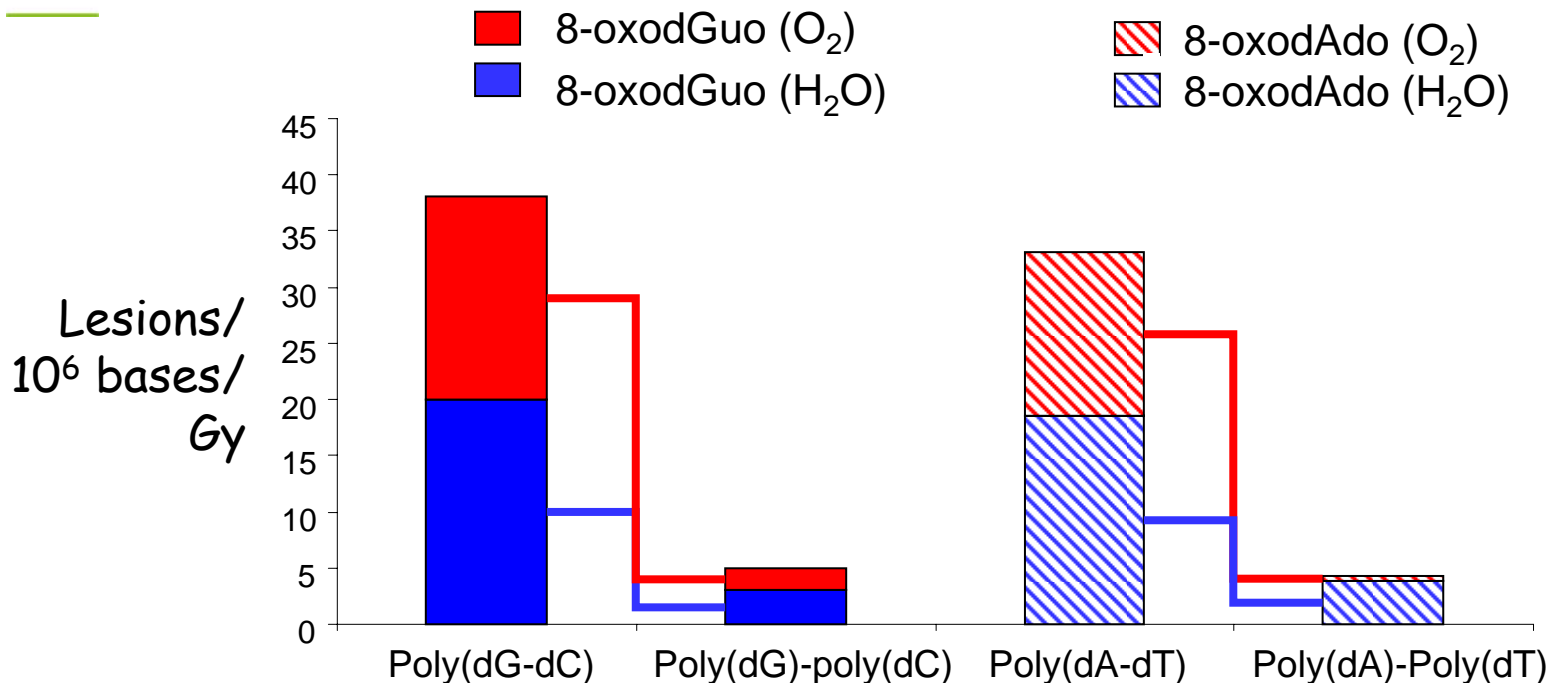
...CpGpCpGpCpGpCpCpC...  
...GpGpGpGpGpGpGpG...

Always double stranded DNA

Same concentration of nucleotides (G and A in particular)

Only **relative position between purine & pyrimidine bases** is different

# Quantification of lesions produced by $\gamma$ -irradiation



## Purine opposite pyrimidine

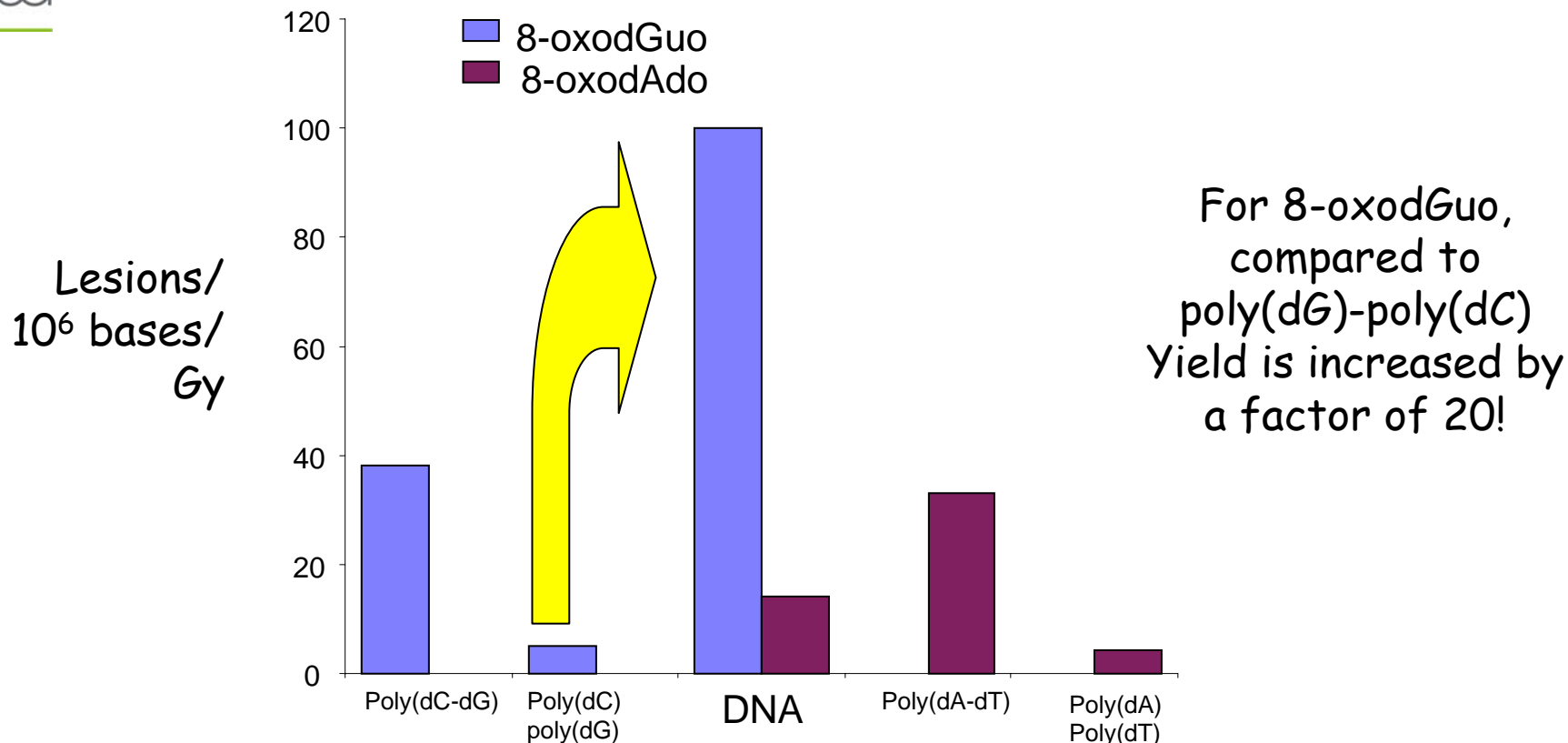
- almost no tandem DNA lesions (almost no incorporation of O from O<sub>2</sub>)
- Peroxyl radicals do not react with bases on the opposite strand

## Alternation purine/pyrimidine on the same strand

- Formation of 8-oxoPur (O<sub>2</sub>) = ROO° addition (as for 8-oxodGuo/dF)
- Increase yield of 8-oxoPur (H<sub>2</sub>O) : ROO° inducing e<sup>-</sup> transfer ?

**Same amounts of HO° and purines but different numbers of lesions !**

# Quantification of lesions produced by $\gamma$ -irradiation

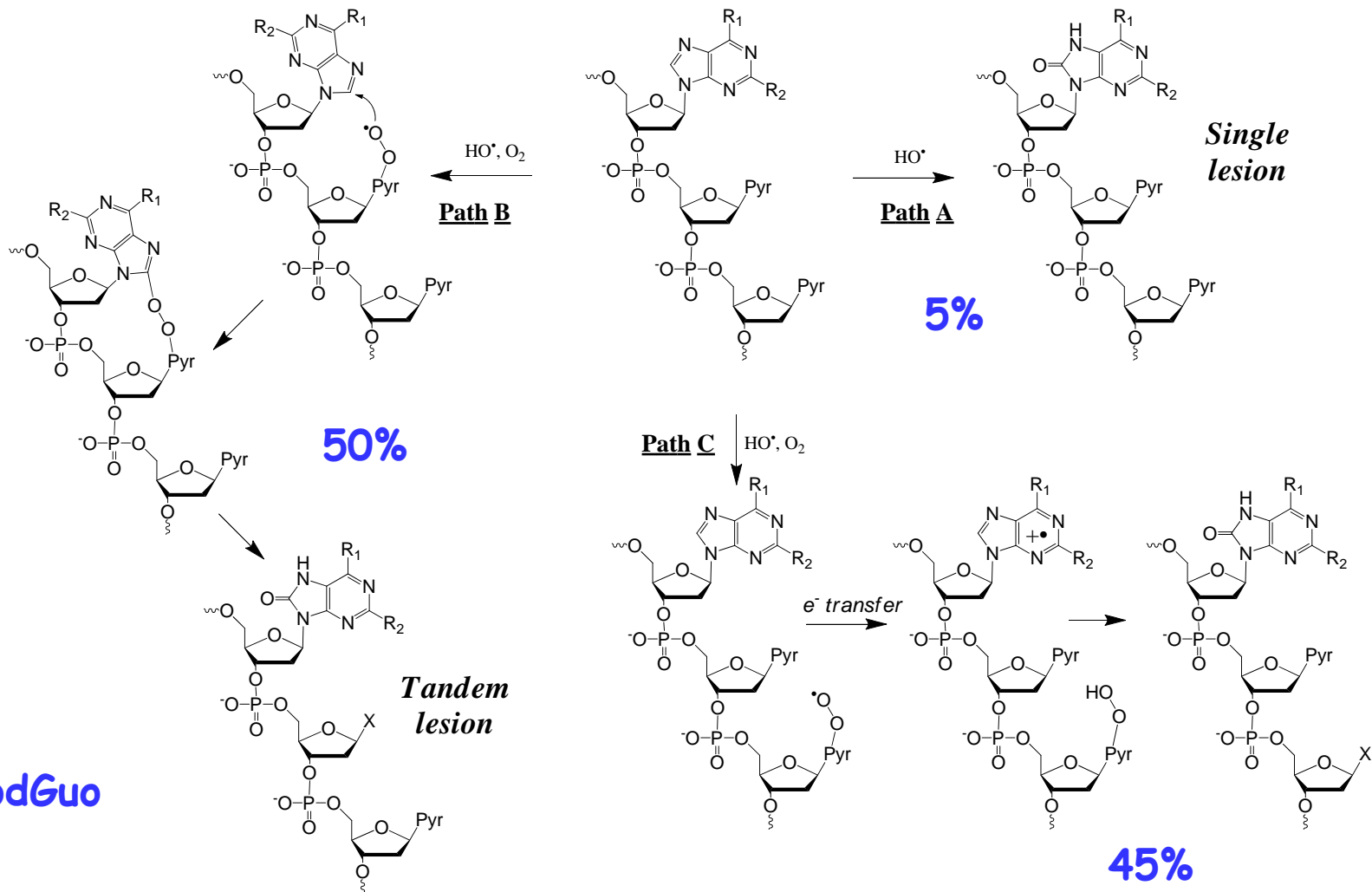


Similar yields of formation of 8-oxodGuo and 8-oxodAdo !

In dsDNA (containing the four bases)

- Decreased formation of 8-oxodAdo compared to poly(dA-dT)
- Increased formation of 8-oxodGuo : role of  $ROO^\circ$ ,  $e^-$  transfer

# Mechanisms of formation of 8-oxoPur



Paths B and C are sequence dependent!

# Biological importance of tandem lesions ?

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A biologist would say :

"And so what ?"

Whatever the mechanism is, 8-oxodGuo is still 8-oxodGuo !

Such a lesion is mutagenic but efficiently repaired in cells (mostly by BER) !

Questions :

Is that also true for 8-oxodGuo involved in tandem lesions ?

Does the adjacent pyrimidine modification play a role ?

Are repair and mutagenicity affected by the adjacent modification?

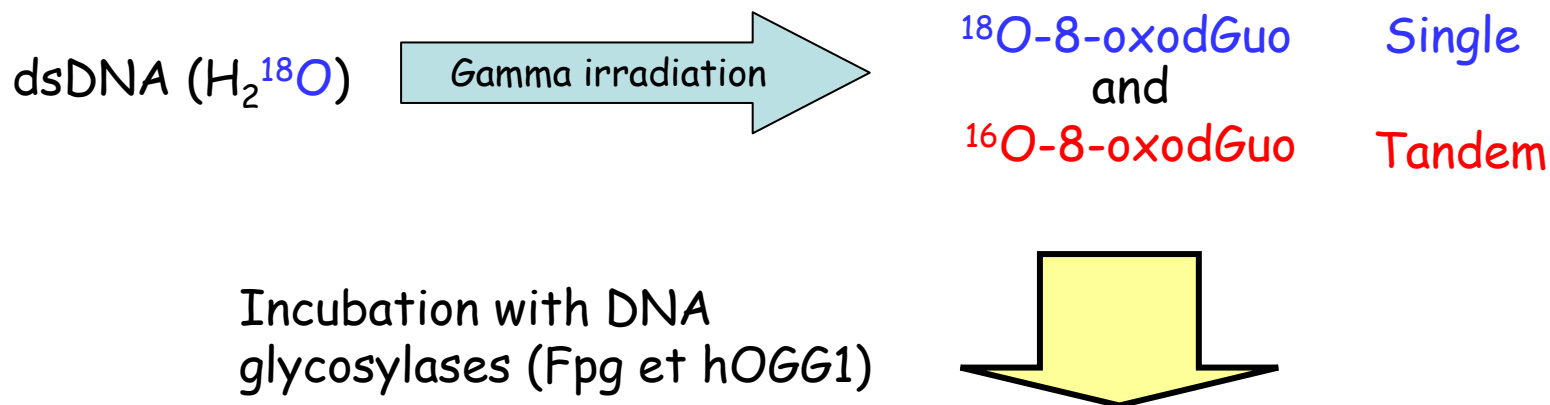
# Repair efficacy of tandem lesions



8-oxodGuo is usually excised by Fpg (E. Coli) and hOGG1 (human)

Is excision of 8-oxodGuo involved in tandem damage also efficient?

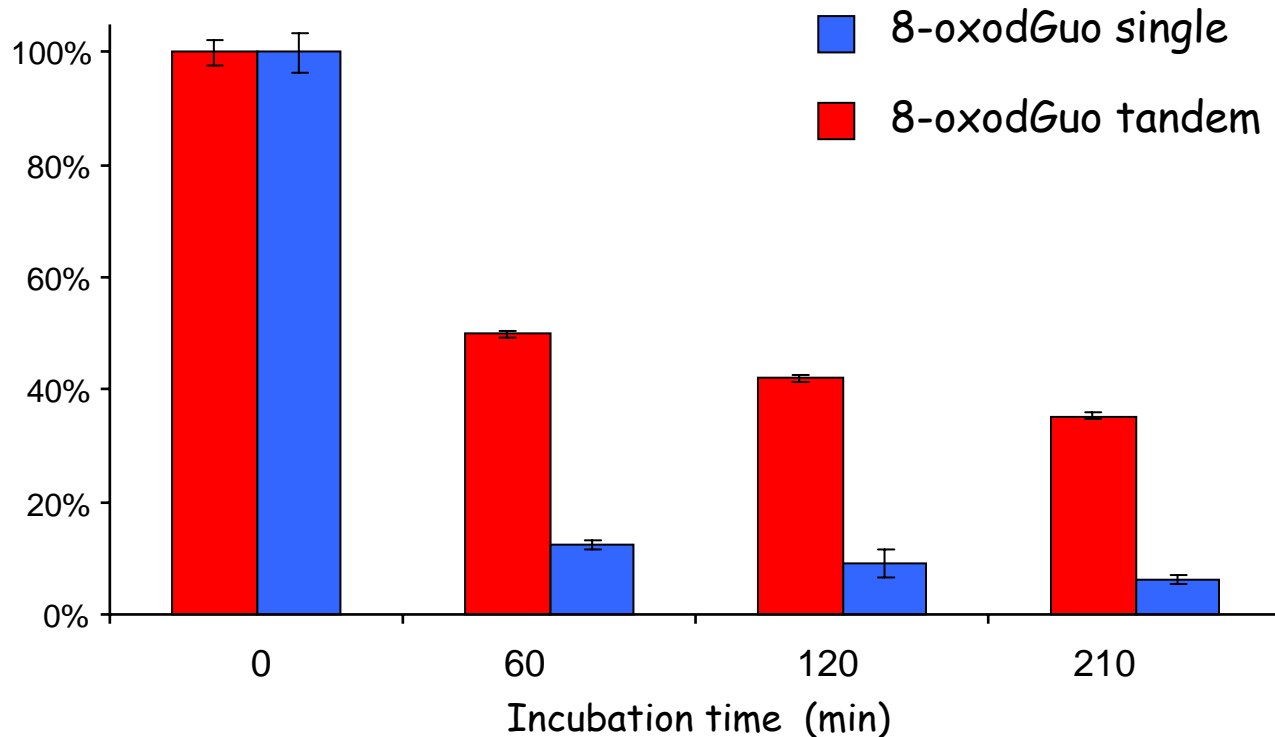
Experimental approach:



Quantification of remaining 8-oxodGuo « single » or « tandem »

# DNA Repair : Fpg (E. Coli)

Remaining levels of 8-oxodGuo (unrepaired lesions)



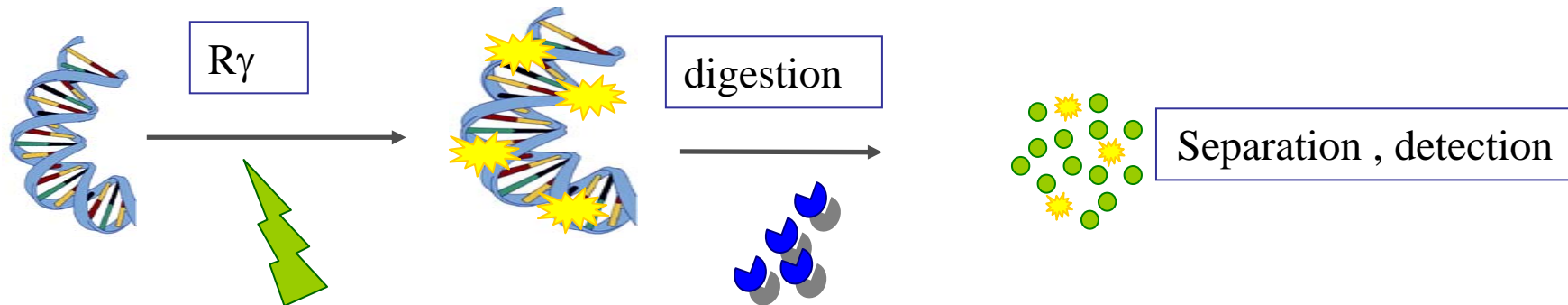
Tandem lesions are partly refractory to repair by Fpg

# Unknown DNA lesions



Are there still **unidentified DNA lesions** that are significantly generated in dsDNA, and barely formed at the nucleoside level ?

**Strategy** : search for unknown lesions in irradiated isolated DNA



**A specific and sensitive detection method is required !**

**To detect less than 1 unknown lesion per 1000 bases**

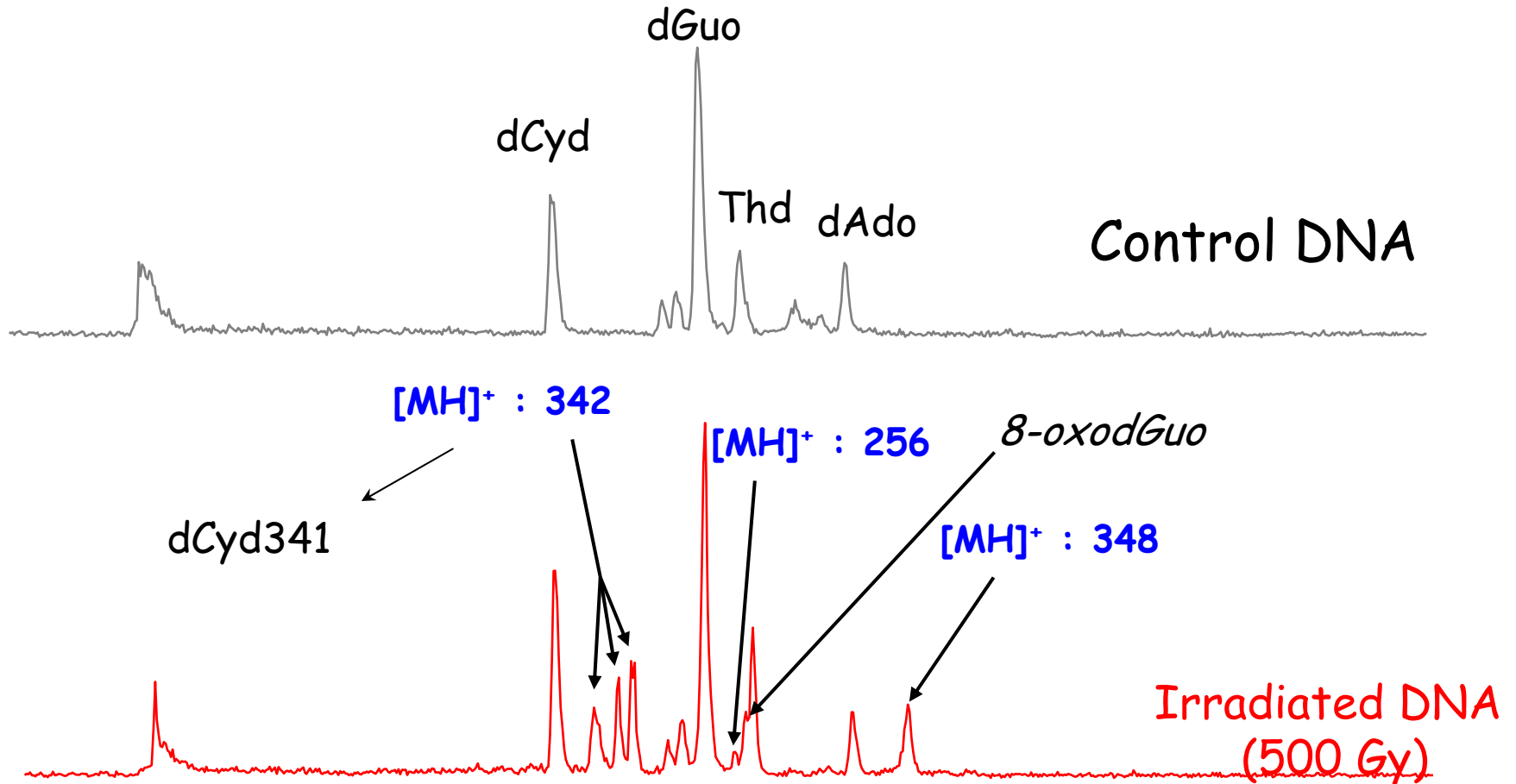
HPLC-MS/MS: using so-called neutral loss scan mode to search for the presence of unknown nucleosides



# Results...



Additional peaks should be due to the presence of DNA lesions



# Is dCyd341 generated and detectable in cellular DNA ?



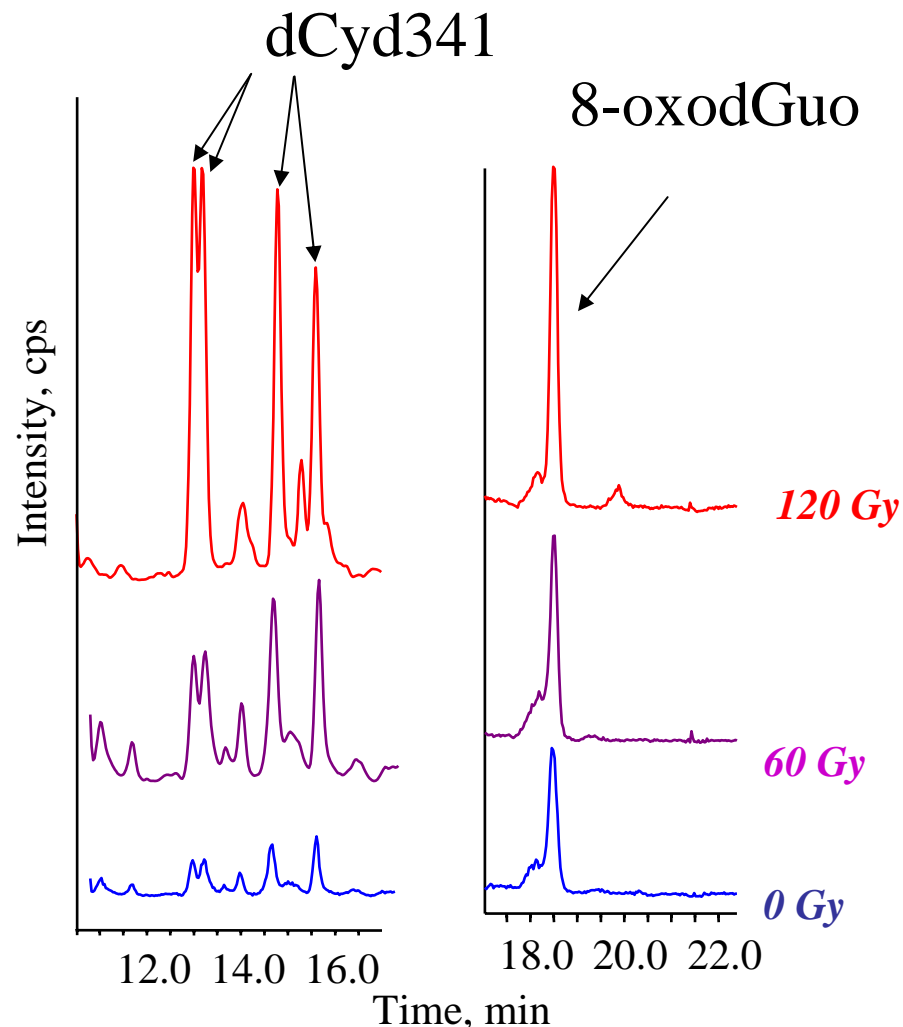
## Strategy

Gamma irradiation of cells  
DNA extraction\*  
Enzymatic digestion\*  
HPLC-MS/MS analysis  
(MRM Mode)

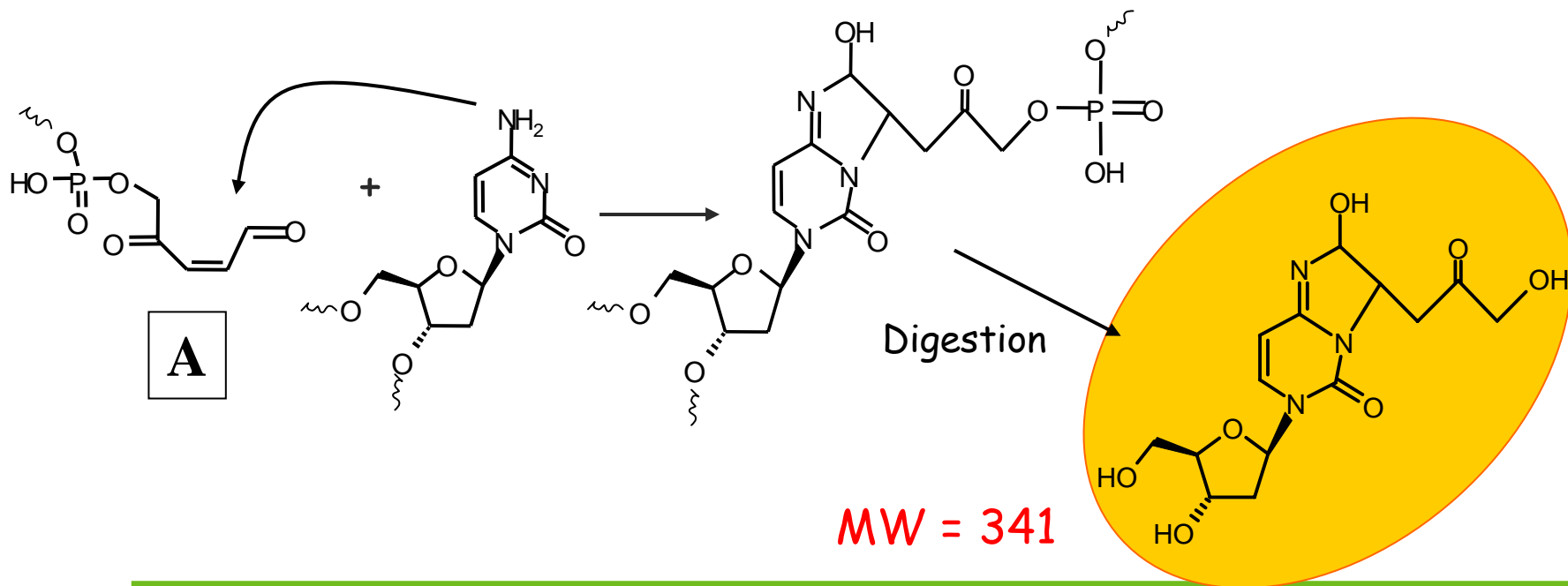
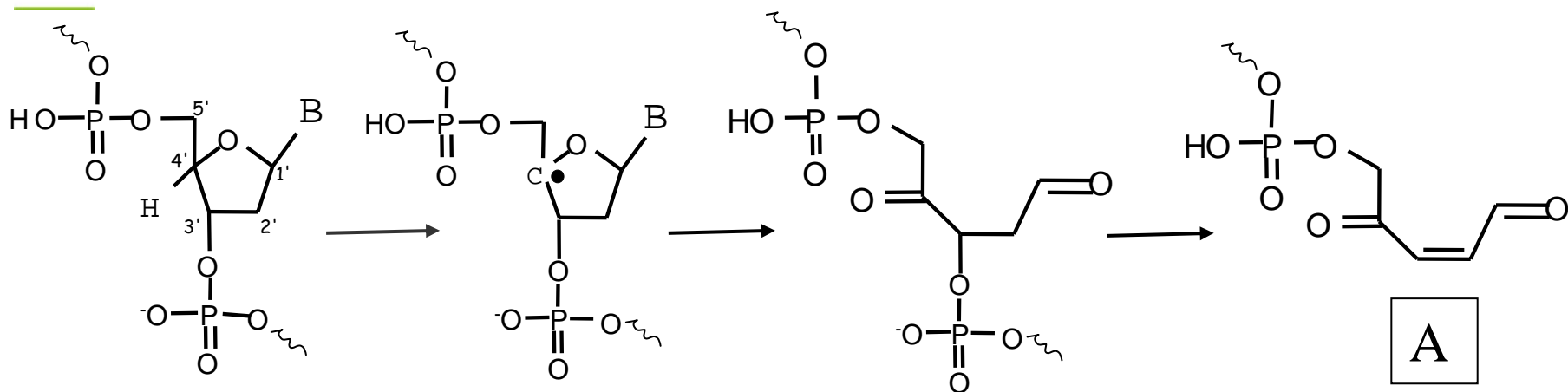
\*Ravanat et al. (2002).  
*Carcinogenesis*, 23, 1911-1918.

Presence of dCyd341  
in untreated cells  
**Endogenous origin**  
(no quantitative data)

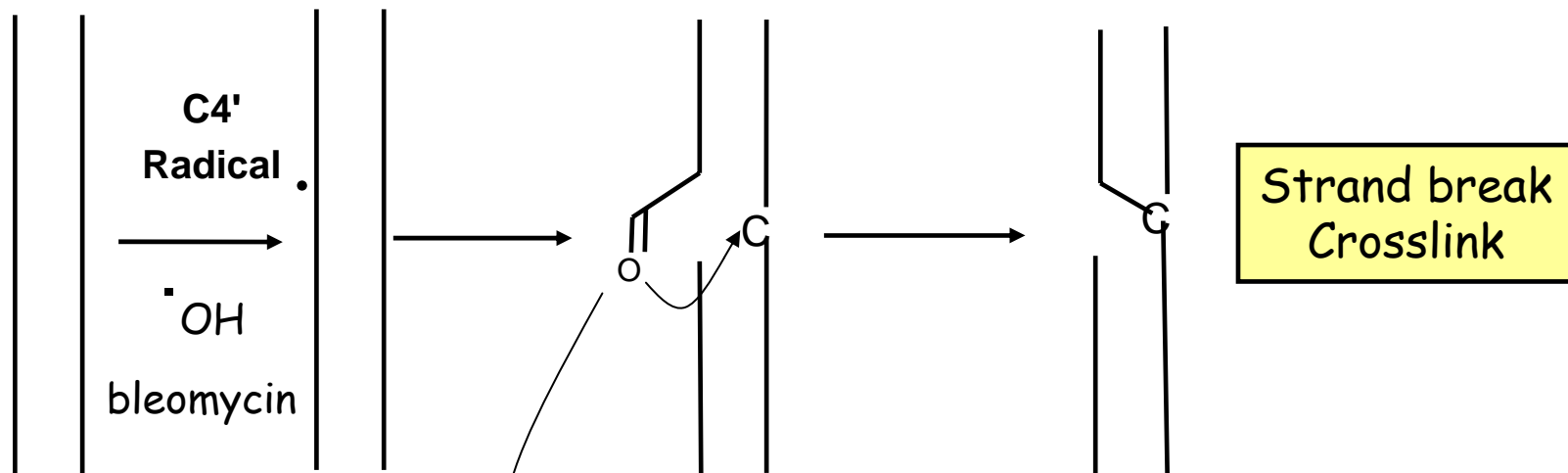
Regulus, P. et al., *Rapid. Commun. Mass Spectrom.* **18**, (2004). 2223-2228



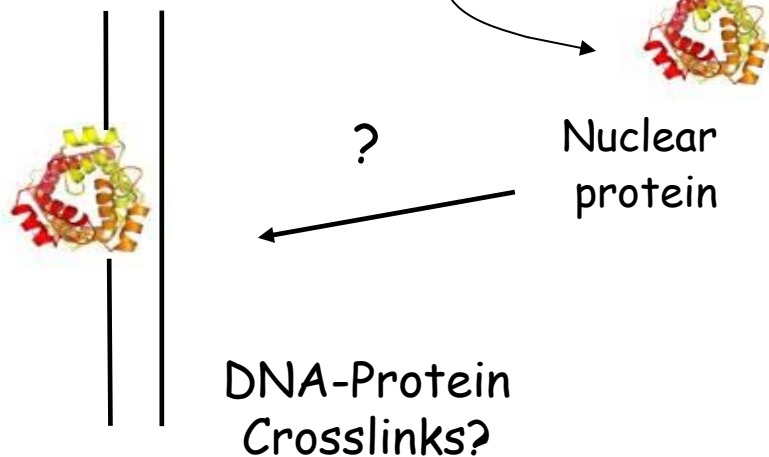
# Mechanism of formation of dCyd341



# dCyd341 a cluster DNA lesion!



Regulus, P. *et al.*, *PNAS* **104**,  
(2007). 14032-14037



Sczepanski, J. T. *et al.*, *PNAS* **107**,  
(2010). 22475-22480

Importance of **sugar oxidation**  
in the genotoxicity of ionizing  
radiation

## Message

The DNA structure strongly influences  
the mechanisms of decomposition of  
initially generated radicals  
(influence of surrounding bases, proteins...)

and also efficacy of repair of oxidative  
DNA lesions

*There is a need of chemistry in radiation biology...*

# Acknowledgments



## Tandem Lesions

François Bergeron (Post-doc)

Marisa Taverna-Porro (Post-doc)

## dCyd341

Peggy Regulus (Ph. D.)

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P. Radicella, (CEA, Fontenay Aux Roses)

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Electricité de France (EDF)

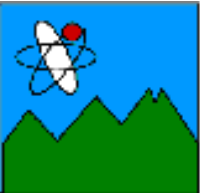
## Other peoples from the lab

Thierry Douki

Jean Cadet

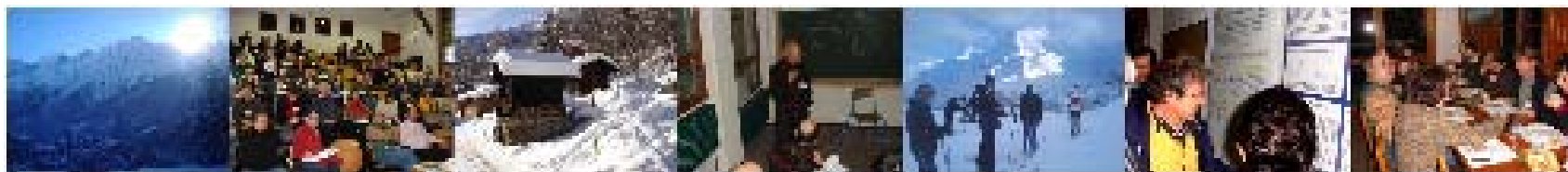
Didier Gasparutto

*Thank you for your attention...*



## 9<sup>th</sup> Winter Research Conference Les Houches, France, March 11 to 16, 2012

DNA Damage: formation, repair, health consequences and industrial issues



Organized by the laboratory « Lésions des Acides Nucléiques »  
CEA-Grenoble, France

<http://www.cerlib2012.org/>

### List of invited speakers

- |  |   |   |
|--|---|---|
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